Attorney Docket No.: 129955/11854 (21635-0122)

Application No.: 10/814,965

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: SHAMBLEN et al. : Confirmation No. 8707

Application No.: 10/814,965 : Group Art Unit: 1742

Filed: March 31, 2004 : Examiner: Kathleen A. MCNELIS

For: PRODUCING NICKEL-BASE, COBALT-BASE, IRON-BASE, IRON-NICKEL-BASE,

OR IRON-NICKEL-COBALT-BASE ALLOY ARTICLES BY REDUCTION OF

NONMETALLIC PRECURSOR COMPOUNDS AND MELTING

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please consider the following Response for the above-referenced Application.

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This Response is filed in response to the Final Office Action dated February 28, 2007.

The **Amendments to the Claims** section begins on page 2 of this Response and any amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of the claims included therein.

The **Remarks/Arguments** section begins on page 7 of this Response.

The **Conclusion** section begins on page 24 of this Response.